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### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action has been issued in response to Applicant's Amendment filed September 8, 2008.
2. Claims 1-30 have been amended. Claims 1-30 have been examined and are pending.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed September 8, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to the limitation of a web page in claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
5. Applicant's arguments with respect to the limitation of if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match, and if the second password is satisfied in claim 1 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Honma discloses in column 15 lines 5-40 that a user uses the 'sales section 1 GP' to access the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP'. The 'sales section 1 GP' then retrieves the document and prints it. It is seen that the user making the request for the file from the 'sales section 1 GP' is the indication of the particular file receiving terminal the user wishes to use. Then it is inherent that since the user is using the 'sales section 1 GP' to make the request that it matches the particular file receiving terminal. As to the second password matching, it is seen that to have accessed the

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document in the personal box, a password was entered, this is seen to be a password associated with the file. Thus it is seen that Honma discloses these limitations.

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to the limitation of said second password as a part of an authorization condition for accessing the stored document to said second image forming apparatus, if the second password is satisfied in claim 24 have been considered but they are not persuasive. Honma discloses in column 16 lines 1-10 that a user may transmit the PDL document to a personal box of another person, who may then print the PDL document by entering their password. Thus it is seen that by selecting whose personal box to send a document to, a different password is set for the file. As such sending information about which personal box to send the document to is also sending an authorization condition for the document. Thus it is seen that Honma discloses these limitations.

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to the limitation of if said second password is satisfied in claim 24 have been considered but they are not persuasive. Honma disclose in column 16 lines 1-10 that a user may transmit the PDL to a personal box of another person, who may then print the PDL document by entering their password. However column 12 lines 25-35 also discloses the users sending a document to his own personal box, and as such when accessing that he would be using his own password again. Thus it is seen that Honma discloses these limitations.

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8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2-23 and 25-30 have been considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues the claims are patentable for the reasons cited for claims 1 and 24. Thus examiner recites the same rationale used above.

***Claim Objections***

9. In view of the amendments made the pending claim objections have been withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

10. In view of the amendments made the pending claim rejections under 35 USC § 112 have been withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

11. In view of the amendments made the pending claim rejections under 35 USC § 101 have been withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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13. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

14. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

15. Claims 1, 2, 10-12 and 20-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Pat. No. 7130069 to Honma (hereinafter "Honma") and further in view of US Pub. No. 2007/0046993 to Sato (hereinafter "Sato") and further in view of US Pub. No. 2002/0186408 to Nakaoka et al. (hereinafter "Nakaoka").

16. **As to Claim 1**, Honma discloses **a file transfer system, comprising:**

Honma does not explicitly disclose **a file management server [comprising a web page]**  
**configured to manage a transfer of files and to allow the files to be accessed subject to a**

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**first password [through the webpage];** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL (Page Description Language) data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'. Then column 15 lines 10-50 disclose the 'general affairs section GP' managing the personal boxes of multiple users, and being able to send stored data to other apparatuses and in order for a user to access the personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' they must enter a password. Thus the 'general affairs section GP' is seen to be, among other things, a file management server);

**a file transmitting terminal configured to store a file and a second password for accessing the file** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'. Thus it is seen that the host computer stores the file because it is the one transferring the data. Then as to the password, column 12 lines 45-56 disclose a user being able to enter a PDL document into their own or somebody else's personal box by transmitting the image data to the image-forming apparatus, it is seen that the password is implicitly sent when selecting a personal box to transmit the data to, since the personal boxes cannot be accessed without a password);

**a file receiving terminal** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose a user retrieving the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' image-forming apparatus and printing it out on another image-forming apparatus names 'sales section 1 GP');

**and**

Honma does not explicitly disclose **a mobile terminal,**

**wherein**

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Honma does not explicitly disclose **said file management server, said file transmitting terminal, said file receiving terminal, and the mobile terminal are connected to each other via a network** (Column 15 lines 33-36 of Honma disclose the two image-forming apparatuses being in communication with each other. Then since column 15 lines 7-10 disclose the host computer transferring data to the image-forming apparatus, the host computer is also seen to be connected);

Honma does not explicitly disclose **said file transmitting terminal is configured to transmit, to said file management server, the file and the second password as a part of an authentication condition for accessing the file, [through the web page]** (Column 12 lines 45-56 of Honma disclose a user being able to enter a PDL document into their own or somebody else's personal box by transmitting the image data to the image-forming apparatus. Then it is disclosed in column 15 lines 39-45 that any time a personal box is accessed a password needs to be input. Thus it is seen that choosing a personal box to enter a file into is setting an authorization condition for that file);

**said file management server is configured to store and to correlatingly manage the file and the second password transmitted from said file transmitting terminal** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transfers PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus. Thus it is seen that the file is stored as well as the condition to access it);

Honma does not explicitly disclose **said mobile terminal is configured to transfer an address of a particular file receiving terminal that is permitted to access the file, to said file management server through the web page;**



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**said file management server is configured to store and to correlatingly manage the address of said particular receiving terminal with the file** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose the user being able to retrieve the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' and printing the document on the 'sales section 1 GP' printing apparatus. It is seen that the 'general affairs section GP' would need to transfer the file to the 'sales section 1 GP' for this to happen. In order to perform this transfer the 'general affairs section GP' would need to correlate the address of the 'sale section 1 GP' with the file so that file could be transferred); **said file receiving terminal is configured to transmit to said file management server a request for transferring the file** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. The action of retrieving includes requesting); **and in response to the request transmitted by said file receiving terminal, if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. As explained above, in order to send the file to the file receiving terminal, the file would need to be associated with the corresponding file receiving terminal. Further it is seen that the request from the file receiving terminal would always match the file particular receiving terminal associated with the file because it is the file receiving terminal that is making the request. Since in Honma, the user performs these actions from the particular file receive terminal), **and if the second password is satisfied, said file management server is configured to transfer the file to said file receiving terminal** (Column 20 lines 48-56 of Honma disclose that when selecting a

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personal box to choose documents from, a password screen is presented. The password is checked against the password stored in the memory for the personal box selected. Thus it is seen that in order to access the files a password must be entered, and thus requests are not taken until this is satisfied).

Honma does not explicitly disclose the management server comprising a web page.

However, Sato discloses a management server comprising a web page (Paragraphs [0042]-[0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the personal boxes of the printing apparatus as disclosed by Honma, with a web page of the printing apparatus as disclosed by Sato. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine to allow a large amount of information to be displayed on one display screen and allow a user to easily observe the information (Paragraph [0050] of Sato).

Honma does not explicitly disclose a mobile terminal.

However, Nakaoka discloses using a mobile terminal (Figure 38 of Nakaoka discloses a cell phone being used to access a print portal that is used to manage printing)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the network printing system as disclosed by Honma, with using a mobile terminal in the system as disclosed by Nakaoka. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine to apply the known technique of using mobile terminals in the known system of

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network printing for the predictable benefit of providing convenient access to the system for a user.

Honma does not explicitly disclose having the mobile terminal be connected to the network.

However, Nakaoka discloses the mobile terminal being connected to the network (Figure 38 of Nakaoka discloses a cell phone being used to access a print portal that is used to manage printing. As seen by the arrows in the figure, all components can communicate with each other)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine Nakaoka used above.

Honma does not explicitly disclose sending the file to the file management server from the file transmitting terminal through the web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can manage putting files onto apparatuses)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine Sato used above.

Honma does not explicitly disclose sending, from a mobile terminal, an address of a particular file receiving terminal to the file management server.

However, Nakaoka discloses sending, from a mobile terminal, an address of a file receiving terminal to the file management server (Paragraphs [0341]-[0343] to Nakaoka discloses information for identifying the printer to be used is input from the client. Wherein

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sending the address of the printer to be used is seen to be allowing that printer to have access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine Nakaoka used above.

Honma-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose sending the address through a web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can receive input selecting a printer apparatus, wherein having selected a printer apparatus is seen to be granting that printer access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine Sato used above.

17. **As to Claim 2**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 1, **wherein**

**said authorization condition corresponding to said file is said second password for**

**accessing said file** (Column 20 lines 48-56 of Honma disclose that when selecting a personal box to choose documents from, a password screen is presented. The password is checked against the password stored in the memory for the personal box selected); **and**

**said file management server is configured to, if a password transmitted with said request by said file receiving terminal matches said password transmitted by said file transmitting terminal, transmit said file to said file receiving terminal** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into the personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the

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imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that after verifying the password the document is transmitted).

18. **As to Claim 10**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 1, **wherein said file receiving terminal is configured to print or to store, in a recording medium, said file received from said file management server** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose a user retrieving the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' image-forming apparatus and printing it out on another image-forming apparatus named 'sales section 1 GP').

19. **As to Claim 11**, Honma discloses **a file management server connected to a file transmitting terminal, a file receiving terminal, and a mobile terminal via a network, comprising:**  
**a communication unit configured to exchange data with an external apparatus via said network** (Column 4 lines 46-51 of Honma disclose the image-forming apparatus containing a network interface to serve as an interface between external apparatuses);  
Honma does not explicitly disclose **a display unit configured to display [a web page] for transmitting files** (Figure 12 of Honma discloses a display unit on the apparatuses for looking at the personal box of the current apparatus as well as other apparatuses);

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**a first storage unit configured to store a file and a second password as part of an authorization condition for accessing said file related to each other** (Figure 1 of Honma discloses a disk drive unit with a file section. Then in column 12 lines 25-37 it is disclosed how files are stored into personal boxes on the image-forming apparatus and the personal boxes are known to be associated with passwords. It is seen that all files in a given personal box are related to the password of the personal box);

**a second storage unit configured to store an address of a particular file receiving terminal that is a to be allowed to access the file** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose the user being able to retrieve the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' and printing the document on the 'sales section 1 GP' printing apparatus. It is seen that the 'general affairs section GP' would need to transfer the file to the 'sales section 1 GP' for this to happen. In order to perform this transfer the 'general affairs section GP' would need to correlate the address of the 'sale section 1 GP' with the file so that file could be transferred. Further it is seen that the address would be stored, at least temporarily, in order to send the file), Honma does not explicitly disclose **the address being transmitted from the mobile terminal through the web page;**

**a file transferring unit configured to, in response to a request for transferring said file stored in said first storage unit from said file receiving terminal, transfer said file to said file receiving terminal** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP') **if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the

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image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. As explained above, in order to send the file to the file receiving terminal, the file would need to be associated with the corresponding file receiving terminal. Further it is seen that the request from the file receiving terminal would always match the file particular receiving terminal associated with the file because it is the file receiving terminal that is making the request. Since in Honma, the user performs these actions from the particular file receive terminal), **and if the second password is satisfied** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that only after verifying the password is the document is transmitted).

Honma does not explicitly disclose using a web site.

However, Sato discloses using a web site in the printing apparatus (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose send an address with a mobile terminal.

However, Nakaoka discloses using a mobile terminal to identify a printer (Paragraphs [0341]-[0343] to Nakaoka discloses information for identifying the printer to be used is input

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from the client. Wherein sending the address of the printer to be used is seen to be allowing that printer to have access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose sending the address through a web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can receive input selecting a printer apparatus, wherein having selected a printer apparatus is seen to be granting that printer access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

20. **As to Claim 12**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 11, **wherein**

**said authorization condition corresponding to said file is said second password for**

**accessing said file** (Column 20 lines 48-56 of Honma disclose that when selecting a personal box to choose documents from, a password screen is presented. The password is checked against the password stored in the memory for the personal box selected); **and**

**said file transferring unit is configured to, if a password transmitted with said request**

**matches said password stored in said first storage unit, transfer said file to said file**

**receiving terminal** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section



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1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that after verifying the password the document is transmitted).

21. **As to Claim 20, Honma discloses a file transfer method, comprising the steps of:**

Honma does not explicitly disclose **displaying [a web page] configured to transfer and to receive files** (Figure 12 of Honma discloses a display unit on the apparatuses for looking at the personal box of the current apparatus as well as other apparatuses);

Honma does not explicitly disclose **storing a file and a second password as part of an authorization condition for accessing the file transmitted by said file transfer terminal [through the web page]** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transfers PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus. Thus it is seen that the file is stored as well as the condition to access it);

Honma does not explicitly disclose **storing an address of a particular file receiving terminal that is allowed to access the file** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose the user being able to retrieve the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' and printing the document on the 'sales section 1 GP' printing apparatus. It is seen that the 'general affairs section GP' would need to transfer the file to the 'sales section 1 GP' for this to happen. In order to perform this transfer the 'general affairs section GP' would need to correlate the address of the 'sale section 1 GP' with the file so that file could be transferred. Further it is seen that the address would be stored, at least temporarily, in order to send the file). Honma does

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not explicitly disclose **the address being transmitted from a mobile terminal through the web page;**

**receiving a request for transmitting said file designated from a file receiving terminal**

(Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. The action of retrieving includes requesting); **and**

**in response to the request, transmitting said file to said file receiving terminal** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP') **if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match** (Column

21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. As explained above, in order to send the file to the file receiving terminal, the file would need to be associated with the corresponding file receiving terminal. Further it is seen that the request from the file receiving terminal would always match the file particular receiving terminal associated with the file because it is the file receiving terminal that is making the request. Since in Honma, the user performs these actions from the particular file receive terminal), **and if the second password is**

**satisfied** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'.

Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that only after verifying the password is the document is transmitted).

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Honma does not explicitly disclose using a web site.

However, Sato discloses using a web site in the printing apparatus (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose file and password having been transferred through the web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can manage putting files onto apparatuses)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose send an address with a mobile terminal.

However, Nakaoka discloses using a mobile terminal to identify a printer (Paragraphs [0341]-[0343] to Nakaoka discloses information for identifying the printer to be used is input from the client. Wherein sending the address of the printer to be used is seen to be allowing that printer to have access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose sending the address through a web page.

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However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can receive input selecting a printer apparatus, wherein having selected a printer apparatus is seen to be granting that printer access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

22. As to Claim 21, Honma discloses a **computer-readable storage medium having embedded therein instruction, which when executed by a processor causes the processor to perform the method of** (Column 2 lines 55-56 of Honma disclose a computer-readable storage medium storing a software program):

Honma does not explicitly disclose **displaying [a web page] configured to transfer and to receive files** (Figure 12 of Honma discloses a display unit on the apparatuses for looking at the personal box of the current apparatus as well as other apparatuses);

Honma does not explicitly disclose **storing a file and a second password as part of an authorization condition for accessing the file transmitted by said file transfer terminal [through the web page]** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transfers PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus. Thus it is seen that the file is stored as well as the condition to access it);

Honma does not explicitly disclose **storing an address of a particular file receiving terminal that is to be allowed to access the file** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose the user being

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able to retrieve the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' and printing the document on the 'sales section 1 GP' printing apparatus. It is seen that the 'general affairs section GP' would need to transfer the file to the 'sales section 1 GP' for this to happen. In order to perform this transfer the 'general affairs section GP' would need to correlate the address of the 'sale section 1 GP' with the file so that file could be transferred. Further it is seen that the address would be stored, at least temporarily, in order to send the file). Honma does not explicitly disclose **the address being transmitted from a mobile terminal through the web page;**

**receiving a request for transmitting said file designated from a file receiving terminal**

(Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. The action of retrieving includes requesting);

**in response to the request, transmitting, said file to said file receiving terminal** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP') **if an address of said file receiving terminal and the address of the particular file receiving terminal match** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. As explained above, in order to send the file to the file receiving terminal, the file would need to be associated with the corresponding file receiving terminal. Further it is seen that the request from the file receiving terminal would always match the file particular receiving terminal associated with the file because it is the file receiving terminal that is making the request. Since in Honma, the user

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performs these actions from the particular file receive terminal), **and if the second password is**

**satisfied** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the

‘general affairs section GP’ using the imaging-forming apparatus of the ‘sales section 1 GP’.

Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the ‘sales section 1 GP’. To have accessed

the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-

56) thus it is seen that only after verifying the password is the document is transmitted).

Honma does not explicitly disclose using a web site.

However, Sato discloses using a web site in the printing apparatus (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose file and password having been transferred through the web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can manage putting files onto apparatuses)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose send an address with a mobile terminal.

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However, Nakaoka discloses using a mobile terminal to identify a printer (Paragraphs [0341]-[0343] to Nakaoka discloses information for identifying the printer to be used is input from the client. Wherein sending the address of the printer to be used is seen to be allowing that printer to have access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose sending the address through a web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can receive input selecting a printer apparatus, wherein having selected a printer apparatus is seen to be granting that printer access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

23. **As to Claim 22, Honma discloses an image forming system, comprising:**

Honma does not explicitly disclose **a stored document management server [comprising a web page] configured to manage a transfer of stored documents and to allow the stored documents to be accessed subject to a first password [through the web page]** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL (Page Description Language) data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'. Then column 15 lines 10-50 disclose the 'general affairs section GP' managing the personal boxes of multiple users, and being able to send stored data to other apparatuses and in order for a

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user to access the personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' they must enter a password.

Thus the 'general affairs section GP' is seen to be, among other things, a file management server);

**a first image forming apparatus configured to store a stored document and a second password for accessing the stored document** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'. Thus it is seen that the host computer stores the file because it is the one transferring the data. Then as to the password, column 12 lines 45-56 disclose a user being able to enter a PDL document into their own or somebody else's personal box by transmitting the image data to the image-forming apparatus, it is seen that the password is implicitly sent when selecting a personal box to transmit the data to, since the personal boxes cannot be accessed without a password);

**a second image forming apparatus** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose a user retrieving the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' image-forming apparatus and printing it out on another image-forming apparatus names 'sales section 1 GP'); **and**

Honma does not explicitly disclose **a mobile terminal,**

**wherein**

Honma does not explicitly disclose **said stored document management server, said first image forming apparatus, and said second image forming apparatus, [and said mobile terminal] are connected to each other via a network** (Column 2 lines 13-15 of Honma



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discloses the system includes a plurality of image-forming apparatuses containing network communication units);

Honma does not explicitly disclose **said first image forming apparatus is configured to transmit, to said stored document management server, said stored document and the second password as a part of an authorization condition for accessing said stored**

**document, [through the web page]** (Figure 1 of Honma discloses a disk drive unit with a file section. Then in column 12 lines 25-37 it is disclosed how files are stored into personal boxes on the image-forming apparatus and the personal boxes are known to be associated with passwords. Figure 1 also discloses that the image-forming apparatuses all contain a network interface. Since each image-forming apparatus of the plurality of the image-forming apparatuses contains the storage space with personal boxes and the ability to communicate with other image forming apparatuses. It is seen that it would have been obvious to have one image-forming apparatus transmit a stored document to another image forming apparatus to hold. Such functionality would be beneficial in terms of managing space on any given image-forming apparatus);

**said stored document management server is configured to store and to correlatingly manage the transmitted stored document and the second password transmitted from the first image forming apparatus** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer

transfers PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus. Thus it is seen that the file is stored as well as the condition to access it. As disclosed above it is seen that it would have been obvious for another image forming apparatus to be the host sending the PDL data);

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Honma does not explicitly disclose **said mobile terminal is configured to transfer an address of a particular image forming apparatus that is permitted to access the stored document, to said stored document management server through the web page;**

**said stored document management server is configured to store and to correlatingly manage the address of said particular image forming apparatus with the stored document**

(Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose the user being able to retrieve the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' and printing the document on the 'sales section 1 GP' printing apparatus. It is seen that the 'general affairs section GP' would need to transfer the file to the 'sales section 1 GP' for this to happen. In order to perform this transfer the 'general affairs section GP' would need to correlate the address of the 'sale section 1 GP' with the file so that file could be transferred);

**said second image forming apparatus is configured to transmit to said stored document management server a request for transferring the stored document** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. The action of retrieving includes requesting); **and**

**in response to the request transmitted by the second image forming apparatus, if an address of said second image forming apparatus and the address of the particular image forming apparatus match** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. As explained above, in order to send the file to the file receiving terminal, the file would need to be associated with the corresponding file receiving terminal. Further it is seen

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that the request from the file receiving terminal would always match the file particular receiving terminal associated with the file because it is the file receiving terminal that is making the request. Since in Honma, the user performs these actions from the particular file receive terminal), **and if the second password is satisfied, said stored document management server,**

**is configured to transfer the stored document to said second image forming apparatus**

(Column 20 lines 48-56 of Honma disclose that when selecting a personal box to choose documents from, a password screen is presented. The password is checked against the password stored in the memory for the personal box selected. Thus it is seen that in order to access the files a password must be entered, and thus requests are not taken until this is satisfied).

Honma does not explicitly disclose the management server comprising a web page.

However, Sato discloses a management server comprising a web page (Paragraphs [0042]-[0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the personal boxes of the printing apparatus as disclosed by Honma, with a web page of the printing apparatus as disclosed by Sato. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine to allow a large amount of information to be displayed on one display screen and allow a user to easily observe the information (Paragraph [0050] of Sato).

Honma does not explicitly disclose a mobile terminal.

However, Nakaoka discloses using a mobile terminal (Figure 38 of Nakaoka discloses a cell phone being used to access a print portal that is used to manage printing)

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Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose having the mobile terminal be connected to the network.

However, Nakaoka discloses the mobile terminal being connected to the network (Figure 38 of Nakaoka discloses a cell phone being used to access a print portal that is used to manage printing. As seen by the arrows in the figure, all components can communicate with each other)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose sending the file to the file management server from the file transmitting terminal through the web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can manage putting files onto apparatuses)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose sending, from a mobile terminal, an address of a particular file receiving terminal to the file management server.

However, Nakaoka discloses sending, from a mobile terminal, an address of a file receiving terminal to the file management server (Paragraphs [0341]-[0343] to Nakaoka discloses information for identifying the printer to be used is input from the client. Wherein sending the address of the printer to be used is seen to be allowing that printer to have access to the file)

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Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose sending the address through a web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can receive input selecting a printer apparatus, wherein having selected a printer apparatus is seen to be granting that printer access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

24. As to Claim 23, Honma discloses **a stored document management server connected to a first image forming apparatus, a second image forming apparatus, and a mobile terminal via a network, comprising:**

**a communication unit configured to exchange data with said first and second image forming apparatuses via said network** (Column 4 lines 46-51 of Honma disclose the image-forming apparatus containing a network interface to serve as an interface between external apparatuses);

Honma does not explicitly disclose **a display unit configured to display [a web page] for transmitting stored documents** (Figure 12 of Honma discloses a display unit on the apparatuses for looking at the personal box of the current apparatus as well as other apparatuses);

**a first storage unit configure to store a stored document and a second password as part of an authorization condition for accessing said stored document related to each other** ((Figure

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1 of Honma discloses a disk drive unit with a file section. Then in column 12 lines 25-37 it is disclosed how files are stored into personal boxes on the image-forming apparatus and the personal boxes are known to be associated with passwords. It is seen that all files in a given personal box are related to the password of the personal box));

**a second storage unit configure to store an address of a particular image forming**

**apparatus that is to be allowed to access the stored document** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of

Honma disclose the user being able to retrieve the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' and printing the document on the 'sales section 1 GP' printing apparatus. It is seen that the 'general affairs section GP' would need to transfer the file to the 'sales section 1 GP' for this to happen. In order to perform this transfer the 'general affairs section GP' would need to correlate the address of the 'sale section 1 GP' with the file so that file could be transferred. Further it is seen that the address would be stored, at least temporarily, in order to send the file), Honma does not explicitly disclose, **the address being transmitted from the mobile terminal through the web page; and**

**a stored document transferring unit configured to, in response to a request for transferring**

**said stored document stored in said first storage unit from said second image forming**

**apparatus, transfer said stored document to said second image forming apparatus** (Column

21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales

section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP') **if an address of**

**said second image forming apparatus and the address of the particular image forming**

**apparatus match** Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming

apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section

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GP'. As explained above, in order to send the file to the file receiving terminal, the file would need to be associated with the corresponding file receiving terminal. Further it is seen that the request from the file receiving terminal would always match the file particular receiving terminal associated with the file because it is the file receiving terminal that is making the request. Since in Honma, the user performs these actions from the particular file receive terminal), **and if the second password is satisfied** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that only after verifying the password is the document is transmitted).

Honma does not explicitly disclose using a web site.

However, Sato discloses using a web site in the printing apparatus (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma does not explicitly disclose send an address with a mobile terminal.

However, Nakaoka discloses using a mobile terminal to identify a printer (Paragraphs [0341]-[0343] to Nakaoka discloses information for identifying the printer to be used is input from the client. Wherein sending the address of the printer to be used is seen to be allowing that printer to have access to the file)

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Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

Honma-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose sending the address through a web page.

However, Sato discloses managing printing through the web page (Paragraphs [0042] - [0051] of Sato discloses a network printing apparatus that provides a web page for a user to access in order to control their printing. For example a user can specify a different network printing apparatus to transfer a printing job to through this web page. Thus it is seen that the web page can receive input selecting a printer apparatus, wherein having selected a printer apparatus is seen to be granting that printer access to the file)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 1.

25. As to Claim 24, Honma discloses **an image forming system, comprising:**

**a first image forming apparatus configured to manage a transfer of stored documents and to allow the stored documents to be accessed subject to a first password** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL (Page Description Language) data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'. Then column 15 lines 10-50 disclose the 'general affairs section GP' managing the personal boxes of multiple users, and being able to send stored data to other apparatuses and in order for a user to access the personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' they must enter a password. Thus the 'general affairs section GP' is seen to be, among other things, a file management server), **and to store a stored document and a second password for accessing the stored document** ((Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transfers PDL data into a personal box of an



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image-forming apparatus. Thus it is seen that the file is stored as well as the condition to access it);

**a user terminal** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'); **and a second image forming apparatus** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose a user retrieving the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' image-forming apparatus and printing it out on another image-forming apparatus names 'sales section 1 GP');

**wherein**

**said first image forming apparatus, said user terminal, and said second image forming apparatus are connected to each other via a network** (Column 15 lines 33-36 of Honma disclose the two image-forming apparatuses being in communication with each other. Then since column 15 lines 7-10 disclose the host computer transferring data to the image-forming apparatus, the host computer is also seen to be connected);

**in response to a request from said user terminal, said first image forming apparatus is configured to, if the second password is satisfied, transmit said stored document and said second password as a part of an authorization condition for accessing the stored document to said second image forming apparatus** (Column 14 lines 22-30 of Honma disclose the PC selecting between two options, namely allowing the image-forming apparatus to immediately print the image data or to store in the hard disk in the image-forming apparatus rather than immediately printing. Thus in view of the user being able to issue print commands from his PC it would be obvious to give the user the ability to issue the command to print the document at

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another image-forming apparatus. Such functionality would make the system more convenient to the user. As to the data being transmitted, column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. The action of retrieving includes having the file get transmitted. As to checking the password column 20 lines 48-56 disclose that when selecting a personal box to choose documents from, a password screen is presented. The password is checked against the password stored in the memory for the personal box selected. Thus it is seen that in order to access the files a password must be entered, and thus requests are not taken until this is satisfied); and

**said second image forming apparatus is configured to store said stored document and said second password relating to each other and, if said second password is satisfied, to print said stored document** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that after verifying the password the document is transmitted. Further is it seen that the document must be stored, at least temporarily, in order for it to be printed).

26. As to Claim 25, Honma discloses **an image forming system, comprising:**

**a first image forming apparatus configured to manage a transfer of stored documents and to allow the stored documents to be accessed subject to a first password** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL (Page Description Language) data into a

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personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'. Then column 15 lines 10-50 disclose the 'general affairs section GP' managing the personal boxes of multiple users, and being able to send stored data to other apparatuses and in order for a user to access the personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' they must enter a password. Thus the 'general affairs section GP' is seen to be, among other things, a file management server), **and to store a stored document and a second password for accessing the stored document** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transfers PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus. Thus it is seen that the file is stored as well as the condition to access it);

**a stored document management server** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL (Page Description Language) data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP');

**a user terminal** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'); **and a second image forming apparatus** (Column 15 lines 25-30 of Honma disclose a user retrieving the original document data from the personal box of the 'general affairs section GP' image-forming apparatus and printing it out on another image-forming apparatus names 'sales section 1 GP');

**wherein**

**said first image forming apparatus, said stored document management server, said user terminal, and said second image forming apparatus are connected each other via a network** (Column 2 lines 13-15 of Honma discloses the system includes a plurality of image-forming

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apparatuses containing network communication units. Then since column 15 lines 7-10 disclose the host computer transferring data to the image-forming apparatus, the host computer is also seen to be connected);

**in response to a request from said user terminal, said first image forming apparatus is configured to, if said second password is satisfied, transmit said stored document and said second password as part of an authorization condition to said stored document**

**management server** (Column 14 lines 22-30 of Honma disclose the PC selecting between two options, namely allowing the image-forming apparatus to immediately print the image data or to store in the hard disk in the image-forming apparatus rather than immediately printing. Thus in view of the user being able to issue store commands from his PC it would be obvious to give the user the ability to issue the command to store the document at another image-forming apparatus. Such functionality would make the system more convenient to the user. As to it being transmitted to a management server, Figure 1 of Honma discloses a disk drive unit with a file section. Then in column 12 lines 25-37 it is disclosed how files are stored into personal boxes on the image-forming apparatus and the personal boxes are known to be associated with passwords. Figure 1 also discloses that the image-forming apparatuses all contain a network interface. Since each image-forming apparatus of the plurality of the image-forming apparatuses contains the storage space with personal boxes and the ability to communicate with other image forming apparatuses. It is seen that it would have been obvious to have one image-forming apparatus transmit a stored document to another image forming apparatus to hold. Such functionality would be beneficial in terms of managing space on any given image-forming apparatus. As to checking the password column 20 lines 48-56 disclose that when selecting a personal box to

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choose documents from, a password screen is presented. The password is checked against the password stored in the memory for the personal box selected. Thus it is seen that in order to access the files a password must be entered, and thus requests are not taken until this is satisfied);

**said stored document management server is configured to store said stored document and said second password;** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transfers PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus. Thus it is seen that the file is stored as well as the condition to access it. As disclosed above it is seen that it would have been obvious for another image forming apparatus to be the host sending the PDL data) **and,**

**in response to a request for transmitting said stored document from said second image forming apparatus, said stored document management server is configured to, if the second password is satisfied, transmit said stored document to said second image forming**

**apparatus** (Column 14 lines 22-30 of Honma disclose the PC selecting between two options, namely allowing the image-forming apparatus to immediately print the image data or to store in the hard disk in the image-forming apparatus rather than immediately printing. Thus in view of the user being able to issue print commands from his PC it would be obvious to give the user the ability to issue the command to print the document at another image-forming apparatus. Such functionality would make the system more convenient to the user. As to the data being transmitted, column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose the user using the image-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP' to retrieve the image data from the 'general affairs section GP'. The action of retrieving includes having the file get transmitted. As to checking the password column 20 lines 48-56 disclose that when selecting a personal box to choose

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documents from, a password screen is presented. The password is checked against the password stored in the memory for the personal box selected. Thus it is seen that in order to access the files a password must be entered, and thus requests are not taken until this is satisfied); **and said second image forming apparatus is configured to print said stored document transmitted from said stored document management server** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP').

27. **As to Claim 26, Honma discloses an image forming apparatus connected with another image forming apparatus via a network, comprising:**

**a communication unit configured to exchange data via said network** (Column 4 lines 46-51 of Honma disclose the image-forming apparatus containing a network interface to serve as an interface between external apparatuses), **and, subject to a first password** (Column 15 lines 10-50 disclose the 'general affairs section GP' managing the personal boxes of multiple users, and being able to send stored data to other apparatuses and in order for a user to access the personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' they must enter a password), **to receive a stored document and a second password from said other image forming apparatus** (Column 12 lines 45-56 of Honma disclose a user being able to enter a PDL document into their own or somebody else's personal box by transmitting the image data to the image-forming apparatus. Then it is disclosed in column 15 lines 39-45 that any time a personal box is accessed a password

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needs to be input. Thus it is seen that choosing a personal box to enter a file into is setting a password for that file);

**a storage configured to store the stored document and the second password as part of an authorization condition for accessing said stored document received from said other image forming apparatus relating each other** (Figure 1 of Honma discloses a disk drive unit with a file section. Then in column 12 lines 25-37 it is disclosed how files are stored into personal boxes on the image-forming apparatus and the personal boxes are known to be associated with passwords. It is seen that all files in a given personal box are related to the password of the personal box);

**an operations input unit** (Figure 1 of Honma discloses a disk drive unit with a file section);

**and**

**an image forming unit configured to, in response to reception of a request for printing said stored document, if the second password is satisfied, print said stored document** (Column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that only after verifying the password is the document is transmitted).

28. **As to Claim 27**, Honma discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 26, **wherein**

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**said image forming apparatus is further connected to a user terminal via said network**

(Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring data to the image-forming apparatus, a host computer is also seen to be connected); **and**

**said communication unit is configured to, in response to a transfer request from said user terminal, if said transfer request satisfies said authorization condition, transmit said stored document and said authorization condition stored in said storage unit to a destination**

(Column 14 lines 22-30 of Honma disclose the PC selecting between two options, namely allowing the image-forming apparatus to immediately print the image data or to store in the hard disk in the image-forming apparatus rather than immediately printing. Thus in view of the user being able to issue store commands from his PC it would be obvious to give the user the ability to issue the command to store the document at another image-forming apparatus).

29. **As to Claim 28**, Honma discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 27, **wherein said transfer request includes said destination** (Column 12 lines 45-56 disclose a user selecting which personal box to transmit a file to), **the second password as said authorization information for accessing said stored document** (Column 21 lines 29-30 of Honma disclose entering a password in the process of getting a document), **and a registration code of said stored document** (Column 21 lines 35-38 of Honma disclose selecting a desired document) **that said communication unit has received from said user terminal via said network** (Thus it is seen that in order to transfer a file, all the information above would need to be present and as such it would have been obvious for a transfer request to contain all the above information).



30. **As to Claim 29**, Honma discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 27, **wherein said transfer request includes said destination** (Column 12 lines 45-56 disclose a user selecting which personal box to transmit a file to), **said authorization condition for accessing said stored document** (Column 21 lines 29-30 of Honma disclose entering a password in the process of getting a document), **and a registration code of said stored document** (Column 21 lines 35-38 of Honma disclose selecting a desired document) **that are input by said operations input unit** (Thus it is seen that in order to transfer a file, all the information above would need to be present and as such it would have been obvious for a transfer request to contain all the above information).

31. **As to Claim 30**, Honma discloses **an image forming apparatus connected with a stored document management server and a user terminal via a network, comprising: a communication unit configured to exchange data via said network** (Column 4 lines 46-51 of Honma disclose the image-forming apparatus containing a network interface to serve as an interface between external apparatuses) **and, subject to a first password, to transmit a stored document and a second password to the stored document management server** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL (Page Description Language) data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named 'general affairs section GP'. Then column 15 lines 10-50 disclose the 'general affairs section GP' managing the personal boxes of multiple users, and being able to send stored data to other apparatuses and in order for a user to access the personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' they must enter a password);

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**a storage unit configured to store a stored document and the second password as a part of an authorization condition for accessing said stored document relating each other** (Figure 1 of Honma discloses a disk drive unit with a file section. Then in column 12 lines 25-37 it is disclosed how files are stored into personal boxes on the image-forming apparatus and the personal boxes are known to be associated with passwords); **and**

**an image forming unit configured to print said stored document** (Column 15 lines 60-68 disclose a user sending in a request and password to print a document and then the image forming apparatus begins printing);

**wherein**

**said communication unit is configured to, in response to reception of a request for transmitting said stored document from said user terminal, if the second password is satisfied, transmit said stored document and second password said authorization condition to said stored document management server** (Column 14 lines 22-30 of Honma disclose the PC selecting between two options, namely allowing the image-forming apparatus to immediately print the image data or to store in the hard disk in the image-forming apparatus rather than immediately printing. Thus in view of the user being able to issue store commands from his PC it would be obvious to give the user the ability to issue the command to store the document at another image-forming apparatus. Such functionality would make the system more convenient to the user. As to it being transmitted to a management server, Figure 1 of Honma discloses a disk drive unit with a file section. Then in column 12 lines 25-37 it is disclosed how files are stored into personal boxes on the image-forming apparatus and the personal boxes are known to be associated with passwords. Figure 1 also discloses that the image-forming apparatuses all

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contain a network interface. Since each image-forming apparatus of the plurality of the image-forming apparatuses contains the storage space with personal boxes and the ability to communicate with other image forming apparatuses. It is seen that it would have been obvious to have one image-forming apparatus transmit a stored document to another image forming apparatus to hold. Such functionality would be beneficial in terms of managing space on any given image-forming apparatus. As to checking the password column 20 lines 48-56 disclose that when selecting a personal box to choose documents from, a password screen is presented. The password is checked against the password stored in the memory for the personal box selected. Thus it is seen that in order to access the files a password must be entered, and thus requests are not taken until this is satisfied).

32. Claims 3, 5, 6-8, 13 and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honma-Sato-Nakaoka and further in view of US Pat. No. 6785812 to Botham, Jr. et al. (hereinafter "Botham").

33. **As to Claim 3**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 1. Honma-Sato-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose **wherein said authorization condition is one or more user IDs that are authorized to access said file; and said file management server, is configured to, if a user ID transmitted with said request by said file receiving terminal is included in said one or more user IDs transmitted by said file transmitting terminal, transmit said file to said file receiving terminal.**

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However, Botham discloses this (Column 3 lines 60-65 of Botham disclose comparing a received client ID against the stored client ID to see if the client is entitled to receive the requested document. Then column 3 lines 65-67 disclose upon validating the request the server retrieves the requested document)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the system of claim 1 as disclosed by Honma-Sato-Nakaoka, with using user ID as an authorization condition as disclosed by Botham. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine to make document distribution more secure and controllable (column 2 lines 18-65).

34. **As to Claim 5**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 1. Honma-Sato-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose **wherein said file transmitting terminal is configured to transmit an effective period corresponding to said file;**  
**said file management server is configured to store the corresponding effective period with said file; and**  
**said file management server is configured to, if the corresponding effective period has expired, prohibit said file from being transmitted.**

However, Botham discloses this (Column 2 lines 45-55 of Botham disclose being able to define control characteristics, including allowing a document to only “live” for a specified amount of time. Then column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the ‘general affairs section GP’ using the imaging-forming apparatus of the ‘sales section

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1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that after verifying the password the document is transmitted. Thus it is seen that it would have been obvious to replace the password condition with the time period condition).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the system of claim 1 as disclosed by Honma-Sato-Nakaoka, with having a time expiration period as disclosed by Botham. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine to make document distribution more secure and controllable (column 2 lines 18-65).

35. **As to Claim 6**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka-Botham discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 5, **wherein said file management server is configured to, if the corresponding effective period has expired, delete said file** (Column 4 lines 34-36 of Botham discloses destroying a document once it's allotted lifetime has expired).

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 5.

36. **As to Claim 7**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 1. Honma does not explicitly disclose **wherein said file transmitting terminal is configured to transmit an effective number of transfers corresponding to said file;**

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**said file management server is configured to store the corresponding effective number of transfers with said file; and**

**said file management server is configured to, if the number of transfers of said file reaches the corresponding effective number of transfers, prohibit said file from being transmitted.**

However, Botham discloses this (Column 2 lines 45-55 of Botham disclose being able define control characteristics, including allowing a document to only be viewed or printed a maximum number of times. Then based on purpose of setting a maximum number of times a document may be printed it is inherent that when a file reaches the effective number, it will no longer be distributed)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the system of claim 1 as disclosed by Honma-Sato-Nakaoka, with having a maximum number of times a document may be printed as disclosed by Botham. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine to make document distribution more secure and controllable (column 2 lines 18-65).

37. **As to Claim 8**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka-Botham discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 7, **wherein said file management server is configured to, if the number of transfers of said file reaches the corresponding effective number of transfers, delete said file** (Column 2 lines 45-55 of Botham disclose being able define control characteristics, including allowing a document to only be viewed or printed a maximum number of times. Thus it is seen that when a document has been viewed/printed the maximum number of times it is

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essentially no longer accessible, thus it would be obvious to delete the document in order to preserve space on the file management server).

38. **As to Claim 13**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 11. Honma-Sato-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose **wherein said authorization condition corresponding to said file is one or more user IDs; and said file transferring unit is configured to, if a user ID transmitted with said request is included in said one or more user IDs stored in said first storage unit, transfer said file to said file receiving terminal.**

However, Botham discloses this (Column 3 lines 60-65 of Botham disclose comparing a received client ID against the stored client ID to see if the client is entitled to receive the requested document. Then column 3 lines 65-67 disclose upon validating the request the server retrieves the requested document)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 3.

39. **As to Claim 15**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 11. Honma-Sato-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose **wherein said first storage unit is configured to further store the effective period of said file; and said file transfer unit is configured to, if the effective period of said file has expired, avoid transferring said file to said file receiving terminal.**

However, Botham discloses this (Column 2 lines 45-55 of Botham disclose being able to define control characteristics, including allowing a document to only “live” for a specified

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amount of time. Then column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that after verifying the password the document is transmitted. Thus it is seen that it would have been obvious to replace the password condition with the time period condition).

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 5.

40. **As to Claim 16**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka-Botham discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 15, **wherein said file transferring unit is configured to, if the effective period of said file has expired, delete said file** (Column 4 lines 34-36 of Botham discloses destroying a document once its allotted lifetime has expired).

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 5.

41. **As to Claim 17**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 11. Honma-Sato-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose **wherein said first storage unit is configured to further store the effective number of transfers of said file; and said file transfer unit is configured to, if the number of transfers of said file reaches the effective number stored in said first storage unit, avoid transferring said file to said file receiving terminal.**



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However, Botham discloses this (Column 2 lines 45-55 of Botham disclose being able define control characteristics, including allowing a document to only be viewed or printed a maximum number of times. Then based on purpose of setting a maximum number of times a document may be printed it is inherent that when a file reaches the effective number, it will no longer be distributed)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 7.

42. **As to Claim 18**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka-Botham discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 17, **wherein said file transferring unit is configured to, if the number of transfers of said file reaches the effective number, delete said file** (Column 2 lines 45-55 of Botham disclose being able define control characteristics, including allowing a document to only be viewed or printed a maximum number of times. Thus it is seen that when a document has been viewed/printed the maximum number of times it is essentially no longer accessible, thus it would be obvious to delete the document in order to preserve space on the file management server).

43. Claims 4 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honma-Sato-Nakaoka and further in view of US Pat. No. 6233618 to Shannon (hereinafter “Shannon”).

44. **As to Claim 4**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 1. Honma-Sato-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose **wherein**

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**said authorization condition is the membership of a group that is authorized to access said file; and**

**said file management server is configured to, if a user ID transmitted with said request by said file receiving terminal is a member of said group, transmit said file to said file receiving terminal.**

However, Shannon discloses this (Column 7 lines 58-68 of Shannon disclose a user of a particular group being restricted from viewing particular pages. Then column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the 'general affairs section GP' using the imaging-forming apparatus of the 'sales section 1 GP'. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the 'sales section 1 GP'. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that after verifying the password the document is transmitted. Thus it is seen that it would have been obvious to replace the password condition with the user being part of a group condition)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the system of claim 1 as disclosed by Honma-Sato-Nakaoka, with using membership of a group as the authorization condition as disclosed by Shannon. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine to improve access and control capabilities (column 3 lines 35-45 of Shannon).

45. **As to Claim 14**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 11. Honma-Sato-Nakaoka does not explicitly disclose **further comprising a third storage unit configured to store a group name and user IDs of group members**;

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**wherein**

**said authorization condition stored in said first storage unit is said group name; and  
said file transferring unit is configured to, if a user ID transmitted with said request is  
included in said group members, transfer said file to said file receiving terminal.**

However, Shannon discloses this (Column 7 Table 1 discloses a storage associating Clients with their groups. Then column 7 lines 58-68 of Shannon disclose a user of a particular group being restricted from viewing particular pages. Then column 21 lines 55-62 of Honma disclose a user looking into a personal box on the ‘general affairs section GP’ using the imaging-forming apparatus of the ‘sales section 1 GP’. Then Honma discloses printing out the image data on the ‘sales section 1 GP’. To have accessed the personal box to print the document a password must have been entered (column 20 lines 48-56) thus it is seen that after verifying the password the document is transmitted. Thus it is seen that it would have been obvious to replace the password condition with the user being part of a group condition)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 4.

46. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honma-Sato-Nakaoka and further in view of US Pub. No. 2002/0174010 to Rice, III (hereinafter “Rice”).

47. **As to Claim 9**, Honma discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 1, **further comprising a user terminal connected to said file management server via said network** (Column 15 lines 7-10 of Honma disclose a host computer transferring PDL data into a personal box of an image-forming apparatus named ‘general affairs section GP’);

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Honma does not explicitly disclose **wherein**

**said user terminal is configured to acquire the address of said file receiving terminal and to transmit the address to said file management server;**

**said file management server is configured to store the address of said file receiving terminal transmitted from said user terminal; and**

**said file management server is configured to, in response to said request for transmitting said file from said file receiving terminal, transmit the file to said file receiving terminal if the address of said file receiving terminal matches the stored address.**

However, Rice discloses this (Paragraph [0110] of Rice discloses an AppLink which is a link to a data files that may specify recipient permissions and other access parameters. Then in paragraph [0178] it is disclose that a particular recipient could be restricted to accessing the AppLink from a particular IP address. Thus it is seen that a recipient is restricted access to a file based on their IP address. Paragraph [0179] discloses that the sender is the one who sets restrictions and access to the files)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine system of claim 1 as disclosed by Honma, with restricting access by IP address as disclosed by Rice. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine to improve data security (paragraph [0104] of Rice).

48. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honma-Sato-Nakaoka-Shannon and further in view of Rice.

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49. **As to Claim 19**, Honma-Sato-Nakaoka-Shannon discloses the invention as claimed as described in claim 14. Honma-Sato-Nakaoka-Shannon does not explicitly disclose **wherein said second storage unit is configured to store the address of said file receiving terminal transmitted from a user terminal, and said file transferring unit is configured to, in response to the request for transferring said file, said request transmitted from said file receiving terminal, only if the address of said file receiving terminal matches an address stored in said first storage unit, transmit said file to said file receiving terminal.**

However, Rice discloses this (Paragraph [0110] of Rice discloses an AppLink which is a link to a data files that may specify recipient permissions and other access parameters. Then in paragraph [0178] it is disclose that a particular recipient could be restricted to accessing the AppLink from a particular IP address. Thus it is seen that a recipient is restricted access to a file based on their IP address. Paragraph [0179] discloses that the sender is the one who sets restrictions and access to the files. As to the address being stored, it would have been obvious to have the address being stored somewhere, otherwise it would not be accessible)

Examiner recites the same rationale to combine used in claim 9.

### ***Conclusion***

50. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

51. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 5835922 A - Document processing apparatus and method for inputting the requirements of a reader or writer and for processing documents according to the requirements to Shima; Yoshihiro et al.

US 6914687 B1 - Data processing apparatus and image recording apparatus, method for controlling data processing apparatus and method for controlling image recording apparatus, and storage medium to Hosoda; Yuichi et al.

US 20030076526 A1 - Method and apparatus for printing documents using a document repository in a distributed data processing system to Gopalan, Prabhakar

US 6931432 B1 - Data transmission apparatus and method with control feature for transmitting data or transmitting a storage location of data to Yoshida; Hiroyoshi

US 7190475 B2 - Method for providing a print and apparatus to Nomoto; Tetsushi

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KEVIN S. MAI whose telephone number is (571)270-5001. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

KSM

/Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2456